

HOUSE BILL 3053
By Stanley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36,
Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to adoption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-102, is amended by deleting subdivision (36) and substituting instead the following:

(36) "Parent(s)" means any biological guardian, and any legal, adoptive parent(s) or, for purposes of §§ 36-1-127 - 36-1-141, stepparents; provided, a progenitor of a child who is not a legal parent shall never possess or be considered to possess parental rights in relation to the subject child until, if ever, after a court has so adjudicated, in response to a petition to establish parentage; provided further, no court shall ever adjudicate a petition to establish parentage filed by a progenitor who is not a legal parent, in favor of the progenitor, by default judgment or without having first appointed a guardian ad litem to represent the interests of the subject child.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.